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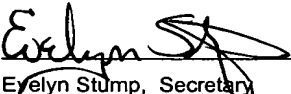
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Evelyn Stump, Secretary

In the Application of Ulrich Speh et al

Ser.No.: Not Yet Known (Based on PCT/EP02/14632 filed December 20, 2002 and German priority document 102 00 525.7 filed 1/9/04)

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TREATING DISC-SHAPED SUBSTRATES

Filed on: July 9, 2004

Commissioner of Patents

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified National Stage PCT application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 6 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.